GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:121
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2001
MIGRATION FROM BANGLADESH
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after formation of the new Government in Bangladesh recently, migration from that country has once again started and Bangladeshi citizens, particularly Hindus are coming to India from across the border;

(b) if so, the number of Hindu families who migrated to various bordering States; and

(c) the steps taken to deal with the situation thereby?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.121 for 27.11.2001

(a)to(c): Government of India has noted with serious concern the reports of violence, particularly against the Hindu minority, in Bangladesh following the General Elections in that country on 01 October, 2001. The Government`s concern has been conveyed to the new Government of Bangladesh through diplomatic channels. Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, who visited Dhaka as his Special Envoy on 26-27 October, 2001, also discussed this matter with the Government of Bangladesh.The Government of Bangladesh has reiterated its commitment to the safety and security of all communities and has stated categorically that firm action would be taken to protect the minorities and to punish the perpetrators of violence against them. That Government has also set up a special committee headed by Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh to enquire into these attacks.

According to the information received from the State Governments, there is no major influx of Bangladeshi citizens, particularly Hindus, in any of the States bordering Bangladesh, after the formation of the new Government in Bangladesh during October, 2001.The number of Bangladeshi nationals who might have entered India during this period is estimated to be around 650.